MIDDLE EAST AND SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

21 OCTOBER 1981

Egypt

Mubarak Interview -- In a New York TIMES and WALL STREET JOURNAL interview reported by MENA, President Husni Mubarak revealed that hereafter Egypt will pursue a new policy that President Anwar as-Sadat had decided to implement shortly before his death, that is, Egypt will refrain from making any critical remarks against Arab states or reacting to criticism from them so as to give the Arab world time to reassess its position vis-a-vis Egypt. He also indicated he has asked President Ronald Reagan and Secretary of State Alexander Haig to expedite delivery of equipment needed by the Egyptian Armed Forces. In remarks on the Camp David peace process, Mubarak said the United States is a full partner in the talks with Israel and it is doing "its utmost" to promote them. He added that successful autonomy negotiations would help Egypt and all the region's states to reach an understanding. Later, Mubarak said Egypt will continue with the peace process and "never abandon it." On security matters, the president said that while more then four persons were involved in the assassination of President as-Sadat, the conspiratorial network was "limited." He confirmed that the officer who led the assassination squad, Lt Ahmad Khalid al-Islambuli, had links with 'Abbud az-Zammur, another religious fundamentalist arrested recently. He went on to say that almost all of the persons involved in the assassination have been arrested. In reply to a question on the number of arrests made by the government in the past few days, Mubarak affirmed that only 230 persons had been taken into custody. He also said that once investigations are completed, the government will release politicians found to be innocent, but he will be "extremely strict" with those wishing to destabilize the country. In what was the first monitored Egyptian reaction to Soviet President Leonid Brezhnev's congratulatory telegram to Musbarak on his election, Mubarak acknowledged the message and expressed Egypt's interest in good relations with all states, but added that he does not intend to start negotiations on Egyptian-Soviet relations "at present."

Abu Ghazalah on USSR, Libya -- Citing an AL-JUMHURIYAH report, Cairo radio said Defense Minister Lt Gen 'Abd al-Halim Abu Ghazalah accused the Soviet Union of promoting tension between Egypt and Libya so as to create a confrontation that would test U.S. resolve in supporting Egypt. He also said Soviet ships in Syrian ports are prepared to transport two Syrian armored battalions to Libya.

Ghali on Egyptian Role -- In remarks reported by MENA, Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Butrus Ghali said U.S.-Egyptian relations must be viewed in light of the fact that Egypt has no desire to fill the role of policeman in the area for anyone. He added that Egypt's nonaligned status is unaffected by its special relationship with the United States.

PLO

The clandestine Voice of Palestine radio reported that the PLO delegation to the Soviet Union, headed by Executive Chairman Yasir 'Arafat, held talks with Soviet President Brezhnev, who informed 'Arafat that the Soviet Union has decided to grant the PLO mission in Moscow diplomatic status. Noting that the talks focused on "imperialist provocations" in the Middle East and the Palestinian problem, the radio said Brezhnev underscored his country's support for the Palestinian people and their right to an independent state. The participants in the talks also stressed the need for Arab unity to combat imperialism and Zionism and discussed the Soviet proposal for an international conference on the Middle East in which "all concerned countries, including the PLO" would participate. According to TASS, Brezhnev and 'Arafat voiced serious concern over the "militarist ambitions" of the United States and the "growing aggressiveness" of Israel in the Middle East. The two leaders also expressed concern over U.S. "hostile activities" against Libya, including "whipping up an atmosphere of war psychosis and making blatant threats" against it.

Moscow radio broadcast part of a press conference given later by 'Arafat in which the PLO leader attacked the United States for turning Israel into its "main weapon" for fulfilling its plans to dominate the region politically, militarily and economically and for encouraging Israeli expansionism. 'Arafat praised the Soviet Union for its "correct and objective evaluation" of the Midele East situation and said the PLO fully endorses the Soviet proposal for an international conference as advanced by Brezhnev at the 26th CPSU Congress. INA reported that in his remarks 'Arafat described the upgrading of the PLO office in Moscow to full diplomatic status as an important step by the Soviet Union toward the establishment of an independent Palestinian state.

According to Jerusalem radio, Israeli political circles expressed no surprise at the Soviet decision to recognize the PLO officially.

Libya

In a 19 October ABC television interview reported by JANA, Col Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi expressed Libya's readiness to confront an expected U.S. attack. He also said that while Egypt is not preparing to attack Libya, Sudan is. He asserted that although Libya is prepared to hold talks with the United States, adding: "They should respect us and we should establish relations like those with any other state." Asked about assassination plots by the Sudanese opposition against President Ja'far Numayri, Al-Qadhdhafi stressed he opposed such acts.

Arab League Summit

INA reported Moroccan Minister of State for Foreign Affairs M'hamed Boucetta as confirming that the next Arab League summit conference will take place on 24 November in Fes, as planned.

Lebanon

AFP and Voice of Lebanon radio reported that gunmen assassinated Hassan Shirri, a West Beirut representative of the Shi'ite Amal Movement. Voice of Lebanon also reported that Syrian forces shelled Lebanese Army positions on Mount Lebanon.

Iran

A foreign Ministry statement broadcast by Tehran radio said Iran will only accede too Amnesty International's request to send a delegation to inspect Iran's judicial system if Amnesty fulfills eight conditions. They include demands that Amnesty condemn Israeli massacres as well as U.S. interference in the affairs of other nations, including Egypt and Saudi Arabia; that it accept Islamic principles as part of accepted international rights and include at least one Muslim lawyer in its party; and that it condemn the Mojahedin-e Khalq's criminal behavior before arriving in Iran. In its preamble the statement linked Amnesty International's "noise and clamor" about Iran with a "propaganda onslaught" by the United States against Iran's judiciary. The Foreign Ministry statement follows Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeyni's recent speech, broadcast by the radio on 18 October, denouncing Amnesty International for affiliations with "diabolical powers."

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GUERRILLAS CLAIM SOVIET ADVISER 'ARRESTED'

BK191019 Hong Kong AFP in English 0955 GMT 19 Oct 81

[Text] Peshawar, Pakistan, 19 Oct (AFP) -- Afghan freedom fighters have arrested a "high ranking" Soviet technical adviser in a Kabul suburb early this month, Muslim dissident sources quoting authentic reports reaching this border town said here today.

The Muslim guerrillas have refused a Soviet offer to release the senior Soviet mineral adviser in exchange of "hundreds of political prisoners," they added.

The sources said that the "highly important" technical expert working in the Ministry of Industry and Mines was arrested on October 4 by the anti-Soviet guerrillas of Hezb-e Eslami led by Yunus Khalis.

Meanwhile a spokesman of the group confirmed the arrest of the senior Soviet adviser, but he did not name him. "The man appears to be very important for the Russians," the spokesman added.

The insurgent spokesman said the Soviet adviser was arrested in Kabul Khurd, a suburban area of the Afghan capital, following a contact established with the adviser's driver.

The driver reportedly gave details of the adviser's movements, and stopped the car at a previously arranged point, where the insurgents seized the adviser and took him gagged and hardcuffed to a hideout outside the city.

Sources close to the leading insurgent group Hezb-e Fslami said the Soviet expert had now been shifted to a "highly secret" location.

Last August, the same group seized a Soviet MiG pilot, Mikhail Semyonowitch, who was later flown to the Soviet Union on the intervention of the Pakistan Government.

AFP: KABUL 'CLOSELY SURROUNDED' BY REBELS

BK201729 Hong Kong AFP in English 1719 GMT 20 Oct 81

[By Sami Zubeiri]

[Text] Islamabad, 20 Oct (AFP) -- Afghan rebels are concentrating their war close to Kabul after facing a stalemate on other fronts, Western diplomatic sources said here today. The rebels carried out a series of attacks in the capital last week after closing their net around Kabul while the Soviet-Afghan soldiers and the rebels maintained a "status quo" in provinces outside Kabul, the sources said.

Kabul is "closely surrounded" by rebels and territories around Kabul are also controlled by them, according to the sources. They said the mujahideen have "effective control" of the Kabul-Gardez highway at a point less than 10 km (6 miles) outside the capital. Reliable reports said a "dividing line" has been established, government check posts have been withdrawn, and civilian traffic now moves unimpeded.

"Government control is thin" and resistance territory begins less than 1 kilometre (1/2 mile) outside the town of Chahar Asyab, Western diplomats said. The rebels' territory is controlled by three resistance groups, each having its own sector, while burnt-out vehicles, damaged tanks and gutted buses showed the frequency of fighting in the area, they added.

The war remains close to the capital, particularly during the early hours of the 10 pm - 4 am curfew, which are punctuated with "prolonged explosions," the sources said. Western diplomatic sources quoting eyewitnesses reported heavy artillery firing near Kabul Airport on Sunday during which the airport remained closed for a few hours. The casualty figures were not known. The guerrillas seem to have resorted to planting bombs at vital places in the capital. Numerous witnesses reported that a Kabul street sweeper attempting to plant a bomb in a grain storage depot was killed when the bomb exploded prematurely.

Soviet-made gunship helicopters have been active in areas surrounding Kabul. They rocketed Maidan Shehr in Vardak, and periodic clashes have been reported in Lowgar Province.

The Paghman mountains area remained less active, with government troops trying to keep a foothold in Pir Buland and Paghman itself. The towns of Isa Khel and Kaldar in the same province were rocketed last Thursday while Qarabagt and Kariz Mir were also bombed, resulting in unspecified civilian casualties, one source said.

Status quo seems to have been maintained in western Herat, with the government keeping control inside the city. However, government and Soviet troops prefer to move in armoured carriers, the sources added. Rebel activity in that province at night was, however, reported higher than in Kabul.

SOVIETS LAUNCH OFFENSIVE IN PAKTIA PROVINCE

GF191412 Karachi JASARAT in Urdu 12 Oct 81 p 1

[Text] Peshawar, 11 Oct (JASARAT report) -- Soviet troops have opened up new fronts in different parts of Paktia Province. They are trying to gain control of the roads and highways before the first snowfall so that the mujahidin's supply and reinforcement routes will be cut off. That is why they have been barbarically shelling the Panjsher and (Abgel) Gardez valleys and Jowzjan Province, situated near the Soviet border.

Jowzjan has vast natural gas resources, and this gas is supplied to the Soviet Union. In the Khoestan subdivision of this province, the mujahidin have destroyed machinery with a rocket launcher and have broken the gas pipeline in four places. This resulted in stopping gas supplies to the Soviet Union during the past week.

Enraged by this operation, Soviet troops attacked this area with 17 helicopters and MiG-17's on 7 October. The Soviet planes came from the direction of Tadzhikistan. After the bombing, Soviet troops entered the villages, captured 25 persons and took them away.

PRIME MINISTER PAYS VISIT TO PHILIPPINES

For reportage on the visit of Prime Minister Indira Gandhi to the Philippines, including her talks with President Marcos and remarks at a press conference, see the Philippines section of the 15 October Asia & Pacific DAILY REPORT.

COMMENTARY ON GANDHI, RAO VISITS TO S.E. ASIA

BK200649 Delhi PATRIOT in English 15 Oct 81 p 2

["Comment" column: "India-ASEAN"]

[Text] It appears that patience of Indian diplomacy in Southeast Asia is likely to bear fruit at last. Prime Minister Indira Gandhi's visit to the region and the external affairs minister's rendezvous with leaders in Malaysia and Burma has triggered off responses that point to better understanding in both bilateral and geopolitical issues. Mrs Gandhi's visit to Indonesia and the Philippines and Mr Rao's to Malaysia and Burma can be described as a two-pronged move to return Indo-ASEAN relations to real politics and move it away from the sentimentality that prevailed after India recognised the Heng Samrin government in Kampuchea. This country's relations with ASEAN as a whole suffered somewhat after that decision and hopes of improving trade contacts did not materialise because of it. There is now a marked revival of interest in India's economic potential and this country must follow it up with appropriate action to attract greater economic interaction with ASEAN. Equally significant is the pronouncement from Malaysia that it shares India's objectives in Kampuchea. That could become the key to opening new doors within ASEAN and Mr Rao's visit to Burma could give lift to a straw in the wind floated by the Laotian foreign minister, obviously after consultations with Vietnam and Kampuchea, that Burma be persuaded to play a mediatory role between the state of Indochina and ASEAN. It is in India's interest to promote the move and since Kampuchea will be discussed in Rangoon, that country may be sounded for its reaction on this.

RAJIV GANDHI WARNS AGAINST 'FOREIGN FORCES'

BK200712 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 20 Oct 81

[Text] Rajiv Gandhi, member of Parliament, has cautioned the people against some foreign forces which are working to undermine the nation's unity. Addressing a public meeting at Barot and Kishanpur-Barral in Uttar Pradesh, he said the people should be careful against the designs of the disrupting elements.

Rajiv Gandhi asked the farmers to increase the production of foodgrains and not to indulge in agitations for higher prices of their produce. Speaking on the occasion, State Chief Minister Vishwanth Pratap Singh said his cabinet will meet soon and announce the procurement price for sugarcane by the end of this week.

LEFTIST GOVERNMENT MINISTRY IN KERALA RESIGNS

BK201617 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 20 Oct 81

[Excerpts] In Kerala, the Left Democratic Front [LDF] Ministry has resigned. Chief Minister E.K. Nayanar met State Governor Mrs Jothi Vencatachellum this evening and submitted his ministry's resignation.

The fall of the 21-month-old Nayanar ministry has come following the decision of the nine-member Kerala Congress-Mani Group this evening to leave the LDF. The Kerala Congress-Mani Group took this crucial decision at the meeting of its leaders in Trivandrum this evening. With the withdrawal of the Mani Group, the strength of the front came down to 62 in a house of 141. After this, Nayanar announced his decision to resign. The Nayanar ministry is the 10th in the state to go without completing a full term. Meanwhile, opposition leader Klarunakaran had a meeting with the governor tonight.

GANDHI RESPONSIBLE FOR REGIONAL DISTRUST

BK201329 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 19 Oct 81

[Commentary by Salim Alwi]

[Text] President Ziaul Haq has once again extended the hand of friendship toward India and assured her that Pakistan's offer of a no-war pact between the two countries was based on sincerity and a sense of realism. In an interview with the leading American daily New York TIMES, the president said Pakistan is fully aware that India is a bigger country. It is a more powerful country and is far superior in economic and material resources. That is why, he added, India should act more gracefully in reducing tension and achieving normalcy in the region.

He also emphasized that Pakistan had no desire to equate itself with India but it also is not prepared to be treated shabbily. Pakistan, he added, (?must be) an Islamic country but it is an independent and self-respecting country. It respected India and would like to be respected by her. India should exhibit large heartedness and avoid irresponsible utterances, he added.

The president's interview has come in the background of continued Indian propaganda against some pending supply of American F-16 airplanes. Ever since Pakistan signed an agreement with the United States for the purchase of some sophisticated weapons to streamline its defense capability, Indian propaganda media have been raising heaven and earth against it. They have been more (?certain) that the Pakistan Army with sophisticated weapons, howsoever small, would upset the military balance in the region, foil the process of normalization between the two countries and open up the gate of instability in South Asia.

The campaign is described by a well known BBC correspondent in New Delhi, (Mark Telly), as the most [word indistinct] against Pakistan. In a commentary on the situation, he said Pakistan's reaction to this campaign was subtle as General Zia personally to everyone down from him continue to demonstrate that they are keen on keeping good relations and even improving relations with India. He said one of the weaknesses of Mrs Gandhi's campaign was that experts, both in India and Pakistan and in the Western countries as well, did not accept the basic hypothesis being put forward by Mrs Gandhi because they believe that even if the whole American deal goes through, the real balance of power would still remain very much in India's favor. He also said that the campaign against Pakistan could be, to some measure, her own personal campaign because when the Indian foreign minister returned from a highly successful trip to Pakistan -- a trip that was widely applauded in the Indian press -- the whole relationship within hours of its (?display) seems suddenly to have gone sour again and it could be that this was a result of Mrs Gandhi (?who informed) the foreign minister that successful discussions did not fall in line with her policy.

So it was the personal prejudices of the Indian prime minister which are responsible for the present state of uncertainty and of distrust in the region. The sober Indian opinion recognizes that in the present geopolitical situation, a strong Pakistan alone cannot ensure stability in the region. Their (?pressing) demands are an objective appraisal of the situation. If Mrs Gandhi, in her sober moment, does that, she will not find anything inimical to India's interest in the improvement of the defense capabilities of Pakistan.

PROSECUTOR GENERAL ATTACKS AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL

LD201412 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 20 Oct 81

[Correspondent's interview with Prosecutor General Musavi-Tabrizi on 20 October, place not given -- recorded]

[Excerpt] [Question] Mr Musavi, following the imam's speech about Amnesty International, what will the stand of the prosecutor's office be in that respect?

[Answer] Our stand is obvious. We do not have a (?particular) stand; (?it is) the imam's stand. The important issue for us today is not whether (?individuals from) Amnesty International should come and see our prisons; it does not matter to us whether they come and see; let them come and see. What is important for us, what does arouse some doubt, is why Amnesty International feels responsible toward and wishes to see only prisoners, most of whom are criminals and traitors.

Why have they not yet even once, thought of going to see the prisoners in Iraq; to see a prison where they killed under torture the late Ayatollah as-Sadr, the source of emulation with all that greatness, the leader of the Shi'ites of that place, and where they killed his (?aged) sisters? They buried them in the prison and then said such and such. There was no publicity against it; the Western and American propaganda organs did not even ask why it had happened.

Or in Britain when the Irish fighters sought their rights, justifiably saying: You should keep us in political prisons, with political prisoners, the representative of the people [words indistinct] died following a hunger-strike and several people died one after the other. Why did Amnesty International not feel responsible and go to Britain, see those prisons and save them from certain death?

Now that (?Egypt is openly affiliated to the United States), that America itself announced yesterday that it supports these killings and arrests, and that Husni Mubarak said: We arrest and we kill, why has Amnesty International not yet gone, why has it not said: We wish to see the Egyptian prisons? Why have they not gone to Sudan?

Why have they not said: We wish to see Israeli prisons, considering Israel's crimes, in whose prisons 2,000 people were killed in one instance and where our Palestinian brothers and sisters are imprisoned. We wish to see those people who are being tortured there.

Why have they not said: We wish to see American prisons. Why did they not go and see the Iranians who were tortured and killed there?

These are the points that raise doubts for us to the effect that they are possibly one and the same as their superpower, and that this Amnesty International really strives for amnesty for those people who are committing crimes for the advancement of America's power in various countries. This raises doubts for us. They should answer these points and then come. That is, they should condemn Israel's crimes, America's crimes, the crimes of Egypt, Iraq and the hypocrites' crimes (?against) the Islamic Republic, (?as in Shiraz) where they burned 2 children to death and set fire to 30 people, or as in Tehran and other places where they killed old men and women. They should condemn them at least once and present them to the world as terrorists; then they could come and see the prisons; there would be no difficulty there.

[Question] In your press conference today you referred to the release of some individuals who have not been guilty of armed activities, and the method of visiting in prisons of the revolution, and to the informing of families of their arrested relatives. Would you please give some explanations on those points?

[Answer] (?That is three points). The first point is that have some people been released or will they be? Yes.

A group of those individuals who have really repented, who have not committed any crimes, who were deceived by these minigroups and who were arrested in connection with them, those who we made certain have repented and will not betray us were released on 17 October from Evin (?and other prisons), and they total (?more than 100). We feel that when they have truly repented and we are certain that they will not betray society and hatch plots, they should not remain in prison but (?return to their families). That is our hope. We have started extensive activities, counseling and providing Islamic books. They are very happy with this, because we have not let [words indistinct]. They are eager for this propaganda. As I (?have gathered) myself, 90 percent of them are ready to repent and, God willing, will return to Islam.

Conditions for Visit

LD210230 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 2030 GMT 20 Oct 81

[Statement issued by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs -- date not given]

[Text] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. World colonialism, led by the United States, in order to support its murderous agents in our country and also in its vast efforts aimed at overthrowing the system of the Islamic Republic, resorts to multifarious stratagems. The most fundamental element of U.S. imperialism's propaganda activity in the past few months has been to make out to the people of the world that there is no stability in Iran. Participation by some 10 million people in the presidential elections, the great victory on the Abadan front and the constant and extensive presence of the national masses in the arena have totally destroyed this propaganda. And now, by using a new trick, the United States is endeavoring to subject our country's revolutionary judiciary to its propaganda onslaught, perhaps in order to give new life to the lifeless cadaver of counterrevolution. The true meaning of the noise and clamor by Amnesty International can be found within the context of this plot.

Just as the great leader of the revolution pointed out, the aim behind the noise and clamor by this and other similar organizations is nothing more than to provide aid and assistance to their masters.

Since we have confidence in the healthy nature and divine power of our system, and the convincing proof of this issue is the open nature of all the activities carried out by our country's three powers, we do not have any objections against leaving open the realities of Iran's Islamic society to the scrutiny of the masses of the world. It is imperialism which attempts by all possible means to prevent these realities from being judged by the world's oppressed men.

In view of the recent request by Amnesty International to inspect the course of justice in the Islamic Republic of Iran, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, in order to expose to the world peoples once again the deceit practiced by these organizations as well as their secret nature, pronounces the following clear and principled proposals as tantamount to a condition for a visit by a delegation from that organization in order to inspect the realities connected with our judiciary and then to report the same to the people of the world:

1. In order to prevent any doubts from arising in the minds of the peoples as to the Zionist tendencies of this organization, it is hereby suggested that the organization should speedily and candidly condemn the massacres in Kafar Qasim, Dir Yasin and in southern Lebanon perpetrated by the Israeli warmongers. Examples and revelations should then be made as to the barbarous conditions prevailing in the prisons of the regime occupying Jerusalem and its intolerable tortures.

2. In order to prevent doubts from arising as to this organization's subservience to U.S. imperialism, it is suggested that this organization should condemn interference in the affairs of other nations, particularly those of Egypt, El Salvador and Saudi Arabia and that it should not shirk its human commitments under the pretext that these issues are of a political nature and outside the framework of the missions boasted by Amnesty International.

The bosses of this organization certainly know better than any other person that U.S. interference in the affairs of other nations has caused widespread and extensive massacres throughout the world and the tragedy of 8 September in Tehran's Shohada Square is one example of such massacres.

Who does not know that crimes against political prisoners cannot be divorced from political conditions and the actions of governments? And, in the meantime, it comes to mind that Amnesty International does not arrogate to itself the right to call the United States to account as the crudest and most bloodthirsty regime on earth merely because of the U.S. Government's claim that it does not possess political prisoners.

3. The organization's statements have often referred to accepted world principles and international rights. We want this organization to announce clearly whether the principles of Islamic rights believed in by 1 billion Muslims are among these accepted world principles and whether, in the view of this organization, the world is to be equated to the United States and whether every principle favored by the criminal U.S. regime is also deemed to be a world principle?

In case the organization announces that it regards Islamic principles and laws as part of accepted international rights, it should announce whether those in charge of this organization and those who are being sent by it are familiar with these Islamic principles and whether or not they are familiar with the complicated and lengthy mechanisms concerning the training of religious judges in Islam and in Islamic courts.

5. It is natural for us to expect that included in the delegation should be at least one Muslim and committed lawyer who is intimately familiar with Islamic canons and jurisprudence. We propose that for this purpose a scholar such as (Sheykh Keshk) in Egypt or some other independent-minded lawyers who have no connections with America be used.

6. The organization should make a commitment that if, after visiting Iran, it is proven that the former propaganda and claims of the organization have been false, it will officially apologize to the great Iranian nation.

7. Before arriving in Iran, the organization should clearly condemn the criminal behavior of the Mojahedin-e Khalq organization that is responsible for widespread murders, having martyred more than 100 of our pious leaders. These criminals have shown no mercy to women, children or old people. They have placed bombs in mosques, thoroughfares, hospitals and stores. They have set fire to buses and have burned innocent children and adults. If there is any doubt about this matter, the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran is prepared to put sufficient evidence at the disposal of Amnesty International, so that it may prove all the above crimes; provided that these documents are published Amnesty International.

8. The organization should make a commitment that it will put the complete and uncensored text of its discussions with Iran's judicial officials before the world public. In this connection, it should tell us without pretexts and without finding excuses in which publication, which radio and which European and American television stations these discussions will be published and broadcast. As a first step, the complete publication of the existing statement [as heard] could be the sign of the sincerity of the organization in this issue. If the organization claims that these means are unavailable, then how is it that when attacking our revolutionary order all these bugles are sounded? In that case, is this not sufficient proof for the organization to know that it has not become a plaything in the hands of the imperialist news? [sentence as heard]

Certainly, provided that the above conditions are met, our government and nation will in complete magnanimity admit this delegation. Now, it is up to Amnesty International to prove that it is not a toy in the hands of America and its allies throughout the world.

[Signed] Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Islamic Republic of Iran

MAJLIS DISCUSSES PRIME MINISTER-DESIGNATE

LD202248 Tehran in English to Europe 1930 GMT 20 Oct 81

[Text] Today, the Islamic Consultative Assembly of Iran had a closed-door session being presided over by Mr Hashemi-Rafsanjani. In this session, the Majlis deputies expressed their views on the new prime minister introduced to the Majlis by Mr Khamene'i, the president of the Islamic Republic of Iran. The Majlis will decide on the prime-ministership of Mr Velayati on Thursday, 22 October.

BANI-SADR CALLS ON ARMY, GUARDS TO REVOLT

NC201409 Paris AFP in English 1357 GMT 20 Oct 81

[Text] Paris, 20 Oct (AFP) -- Exiled former Iranian President Abolhasan Bani-Sadr today called on Iran's Armed Forces and Islamic revolutionary guards to join what he called "general uprising" against the Tehran regime.

In a statement released to the media here, Mr Bani-Sadr also asked clerics, intellectuals, political leaders, youth, workers, farmers, small businessmen and cadres to join the National Resistance Council.

That group was formed by Mr Bani-Sadr and People's Mojahedin resistance leader Mas'ud Rajavi shortly after the two arrived here on July 29.

Mr Bani-Sadr also accused Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeyni, the Iranian revolutionary leader, of having moved from the status of "guide" to that of "shah," and of having "betrayed Islam, the people and himself" by not following his own promises to "respect laws and freedoms."

"Bombings and acts of violence are simply consequences of the suppression of laws and liberties," he said, calling those governing the country "enemies of Islam and Iran" who were perpetrating a reign of "crime and terror".

MATERIALS CONCERNING INTERNAL OPPOSITION

10 Mojahedin Executed

NC210837 Paris AFP in English 0827 GMT 21 Oct 81

[Text] Tehran, 21 Oct (AFP) -- Firing squads have executed 10 more supporters of the banned People's Mojahedin movement, the official newspaper of the ruling Islamic Republican Party reported today.

It said the executions took place at Karaj, 40 kms (25 miles) west of Tehran, and in the northern provinces of Babol and Langerud.

Principal Assassinated

LD201802 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 20 Oct 81

[Text] According to a PARS report, the Public Relations Office of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps at Hashtpar, near Tavalesh, has announced that this morning the criminal hands of the hypocritical minigroup were stained with the blood of another commited education official of Hashtpar. Brother Ayyub Mirza'i, the principal of the Emam-Shafe'i secondary school, was attacked and on his way to work. According to this report, so far two persons have been arrested in this connection by the Guards Corps of Taresar District and they are being interrogated.

According to the same report, the funeral of this martyr of the path of Islam took place at 1300 amidst the sorrow and sadness of the Muslim and martyr-nurturing people of Taresar and Rezvanshahr and with the participation of the members of the revolutionary organizations and state departments, and his pure body was buried with special religious ceremonies.

Assassination Attempt

GF201748 Mashhad Domestic Service in Persian 1430 GMT 20 Oct 81

[Excerpt] According to a Central News Unit correspondent's report from Sabzevar, Ahmad ('Abareki), an active member of this township's teachers Islamic society and the principal of [name indistinct] school, became the target of a member of the terrorist hypocrite organization at 0730 today. As a result of this assassination attempt, he was wounded in the leg and abdomen. He was admitted to the hospital and his conditions is satisfactory. According to the same report, the terrorist hypocrite managed to escape.

Mashhad Guards Statement

GF201744 Mashhad Domestic Service in Persian 1430 GMT 20 Oct 81

[Communique issued by the Mashhad Islamic Revolution Guards Corps Public Relations Office on 20 October]

[Excerpts] Following the orders of the great leader of the Islamic revolution on identifying the counterrevolutionaries, and with the information provided by the 36-million-strong intelligence organization and the endless efforts of the selfless brother guards, members of committees and police, we are now witnessing the collapse of the united front of the counterrevolution which has spread its network like a spider's web.

The Mashhad Islamic Revolution Guards Corps is honored to announce to the esteemed citizens that during the past 2 weeks it has been successful in arresting 60 counterrevolutionaries, consisting mainly of the antipopular hypocrite organization, from 10 safe houses and has handed them over to God's justice. Large amounts of ammunition, weapons and booklets have been seized from these people. It is worth noting that the arrested terrorists have been responsible for the recent explosions and assassinations in the holy city of Mashhad.

Clash in Kordestan

LD201800 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 20 Oct 81

[Text] The Central News Unit, quoting the Public Relations Office of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps of Sanandaj, has announced: On 18 October, a number of brother guards and Kurdish Muslim peshmerga from Baneh clashed with armed counterrevolutionary elements in the (Suvir) heights on the road between Sar Dasht and Baneh. This clash, which lasted for 6 hours and which was supported by the artillery fire of the military brothers, ended with the counterrevolutionaries fleeing. During these clashes, losses and damage were inflicted on the illegal armed elements, but no information is available about the exact figures. Also, one of our forces was martyred and two were injured.

Fighting Between KDP, Barzanis

JN191925 (Clandestine) Voice of Iranian Kordestan in Surani Kurdish 1345 GMT 18 Oct 81

[Text] Oshnoviyeh -- Our correspondent reports from Oshnoviyeh that on 12 and 13 October a strong battle erupted in the heights of the villages of (Kaykhan), (Kani Rash) and (Dru) in the Oshnoviyeh region between the KDP peshmerga and the historic killers of Kurds, the provisional command elements.

The peshmerga valiantly confronted the command agents. Mas'ud Barzani, head of the mercenary traitors, came to the battlefield to take part in the fratricidal war. The Barzanis have become a tool for the U.S. interests, shedding their blood under their leaders' pressure.

Information received about this battle says that three Landrovers carrying the command elements were hit by the peshmerga fire. The Landrovers were destroyed and their occupants, most of whom were prominent Barzanis were either killed or wounded. Reliable sources say that the people of Oshnoviyeh have counted 55 dead.

On 14 October, fighting lasted from 0600 until evening, during which 22 of the enemy were killed and 2 local mercenaries were taken captive. They are (Khaland) from (Dru) village and (Haj Shino) from (Kani Rash) village. Unfortunately, four heroic peshmerga were martyred during this operation. They are Brother Hatim Barakhan, leader of the operation from (Daza Malgavar), Mahmud Ahmad Pur from (Nasuri), Brother Karam from (Qawar) and Rasul from [name indistinct].

It is noteworthy that the popular resistance took part in the fighting side by side with the peshmerga against the CIA and Mossad agents. We extend thanks and appreciation for the popular resistance. We also extend condolences to the martyrs' families and the region's inhabitants in general. Be reassured that the peshmerga will take revenge and that the martyrs' blood will not go in vain. We renew the pledge to martyr Hasim and his comrades that we will carry on along the martyrs' path until we achieve victory.

GOVERNOR GENERAL APPOINTED FOR SENNAN PROVINCE

LD191212 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 19 Oct 81

[Text] According to a Central News Unit report, the interior minister has appointed Mr Mohammad Javad Sahlani as the new governor general of Semnan Province.

ARMED FORCES JOINT STAFF COMMUNIQUE 673

LD201904 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 20 Oct 81

[Communique 673 of the Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran]

[Text] In His exalted name. Dear, epic-making Iranian compatriots: The defenders of the extensive battlefronts, armed with invincible strength and vigilance, during the past 24 hours succeeded in destroying a total number of 5 enemy tanks, 2 mortars, 6 vehicles, 16 group bunkers and 2 weapons emplacements and killed 18 of Saddam's stooges. The enemy's main supply route and tank and mortar positions on the Kermanshah front came under artillery fire from our mighty forces, whereby 5 enemy squad trenches, many foxholes, 2 vehicles and a few mortar emplacements of the Saddamists were destroyed and about 10 of their servicemen were killed; enemy activities in this region were curtailed.

An exchange of artillery and mortar fire, in which the combatant forces of the Islamic army enjoyed firepower superiority, continues in the Sar-e Pol-e Zahab, Bazi Deraz, Sonboleh, Gilan-e Gharb, Tang-e Hajiyan, Dar Ballut and Meymak regions, with its intensity being greatest in the Meymak region. On the Qasr-e Shirin front Islam's self-sacrificing combatants killed a number of Ba'thist mercenaries. In the Reqabiyeh region, exchange of fire continues between the two sides with ever-greater intensity. The enemy advance in this region has been halted and its artillery and mortar fire has been silenced. Thanks to our artillery firepower, every move made by the Saddamists has been stopped. During these operations, one enemy mortar and three tanks were destroyed and eight Iraqi mercenaries were killed. Thanks to the artillery fire by the mighty forces of the army of Islam at enemy fortifications on the Susangerd fronts, 2 enemy tanks, 10 group bunkers and 3 Saddamist vehicles were destroyed and a number of their servicemen were either killed or wounded.

On the Ahvaz fronts, our heroes opened mortar and heavy-weapon fire on enemy trenches, as a result of which the enemy suffered losses and casualties. By firing mortars at Abadan's residential areas, the misguided enemy has destroyed 1 house, martyred 2 of our compatriots and wounded another 11 of them.

Thanks to our units' fire on the positions of Saddam's troops, two enemy weapons emplacements and one group bunker were destroyed and a number of Iraqi troops were killed.

The mighty combatants of the Navy of the Islamic Republic of Iran, by opening fire on enemy positions and installations in the occupied sector of Khorramshahr, destroyed several enemy foxholes and assembly buildings, one mortar launcher and one heavy vehicle and killed a number of those deceived by Saddam. In the meantime, by opening fire on enemy positions on the opposite bank of the Arvand Rud, appreciable damage has been inflicted on their fortifications and mortar emplacements and a number of enemy servicemen were either killed or wounded. Also, movement of enemy forces in the Al-Faw-Basra region has been blocked.

Several aggressive Iraqi aircraft appeared in the airspace of Iranian cities in southwest Iran but, thanks to fire by our air defense units, these were forced to flee.

The Ground Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran presented two martyrs to the imam of the Islamic nation on 18 October. May their souls be happy and may their goal inspire us to better deeds.

[Signed] The Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran

GUARDS CORPS ANNOUNCES BATTLE SUCCESSES

LD201820 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 20 Oct 81

[Statement issued by the Public Relations Office of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps]

[Text] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. We bring to your attention a report on recent operations carried out by the self-sacrificing combatants of the Islamic corps on the battlefronts of good against evil as follows:

On the western fronts: Thanks to accurate artillery fire by the intrepid combatants of Islam, enemy positions in the Hajji Shaykh base in Iraq were hit yesterday and as a result one cannon and one medium-heavy weapon of Saddam's forces were destroyed. On the same day, thanks to an attack by the heroes of the Islamic corps in the vicinity of the Sayyid Sadiq base in Iraq, one enemy vehicle was destroyed on the (Shanbari) highway and seven enemy servicemen were either killed or wounded.

Also, on 18 October, one armored personnel carrier belonging to the Ba'thist mercenaries was destroyed on Halabcheh-As-Sulaymaniyah road and all the servicemen in it were killed. Following the operations carried out during the past few days by our combatants in the towns of Sirwan and Sayyid Sadiq, appreciable losses and damage were inflicted on Saddam's security and communication centers. Also, because of fire opened by the Ba'thist aggressors on the Kani Miran village in the vicinity of Marivan, three of our compatriots' houses were damaged and a villager was wounded. On 18 October, two deceived elements from the Rizgari minigroup [leftist Kurdish party] together with their arms and ammunition surrendered to one of the Guards Corps centers and were granted safe conduct.

On the southern fronts: The positions and fortifications of the aggressive Ba'thist forces were hit by our corps' mortar fire and the enemy forces suffered losses and casualties. In the Abadan region, on Mil Island, exchange of fire continued with our combatants enjoying firepower superiority.

AIR FORCE DOWNS IRAQI MIG SOUTHEAST OF ABADAN

LD191712 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 19 Oct 81

[Text] According to a PARS report, this morning a violating Iraqi MiG which was trying to attack the area east of Karun was hit by one of the high-flying eagles of the Air Force of the Islamic Republic of Iran before being able to carry out its mission and was downed in the waters to the southeast of Abadan.

NVOI ON FREEDOM FOR PARTIES, U.S. THREAT

TA162002 [Editorial Report] The clandestine National Voice of Iran in Persian to Iran at 1730 GMT on 16 October carried two commentaries.

The first, entitled "Violating the Principles of the Constitution Is Below the Dignity of the Islamic Authorities," stated that Hojjat ol-Eslam Khamene'i has up to now repeatedly expressed his strong opposition to violation of the principles of the Constitution, including the occupation of the offices of genuine parties and organizations by irresponsible individuals. Now that Hojjat ol-Eslam Khamene'i, our homeland's president, has officially started his duties, the true forces of the revolution and the Iranian people expect the president to put an immediate end to instances of violation of the principles of the Constitution in regard to the rights of the nation, including the violation of the principle pertaining to the freedom of activity of parties and political groups committed to the revolution.

It has been more than one year now since the offices of some of the true parties of the revolution, whose sincere support for the imam's and the revolution's popular and anti-imperialist line is beyond the slightest doubt, have been occupied by a number of SAVAKists and irresponsible individuals. Our homeland's people and the true forces of the revolution are rightly saying that as long as the occupation of the office of parties and organizations committed to the revolution is not terminated, any sort of promise regarding respect for and observance of the principles of the Constitution, including the section pertaining to the rights of the nation, cannot be taken seriously.

Since the occupation of these offices, many of the authorities of the Islamic Republic, while condemning this act, have demanded that the principles of the Constitution in respect to the freedom of activity of parties and political groups committed to the revolution be respected. Unfortunately, certain powerful hands continue to openly violate the Constitution, and by this action, deal blows to the development and broadening of the revolution's popular and anti-imperialist line. The true forces of the revolution and the people of our country hope that the new president will take immediate practical and decisive steps toward maintaining the freedoms guaranteed in the Constitution for all the people and for all parties, groups and political organizations that respect the Constitution and that sincerely support the system of the Islamic Republic, and that he will put an end to instances of violation of the principles of the Constitution.

The second commentary, entitled "The Pentagon and the CIA Have Made Our Region Their Target," said: With the aid of its puppets in the Near East, the United States is transforming this region into the war base of U.S. imperialism in order to topple progressive regimes and to plunder the oil resources of the countries of the Persian Gulf region unchallenged. The strategic aim of U.S. imperialism is the preservation of the so-called vital interests of the United States in the Near East and the Persian Gulf, by resorting to military force if necessary. What are these so-called vital interests thousands of miles away from the United States? Maybe in Washington they have mistaken the littoral countries of the Persian Gulf for Texas or California.

They are quite aware in Washington that the vital interests and the right of sovereignty over oil resources belong to the nations of the Persian Gulf region, and that it is only these nations that can and must defend them.

The question posed is why the Americans have created the Rapid Deployment Force. Washington has in particular entrusted this force with the duty of safeguarding its so-called vital interests. We are all aware that most of the Persian Gulf countries have rejected Washington's view on the establishment of a defensive pact in the Persian Gulf which the United States, along with Britain, intended to impose on the governments of our region. However, the United States is relying on the puppet regime of Oman and the American-affliated government of the Saudis to implement its designs.

Truly, against which danger does the United States intend to protect the Persian Gulf? Which power, other than world-devouring America, has threatened the Persian Gulf? The propaganda clamor of the imperialism mass media, especially American, regarding the so-called threats by the Soviet Union or the alleged desire by the Soviet Union to lay hands on the oil of the Persian Gulf, cannot deceive even schoolchildren. All are aware that the Soviet Union's oil production is at such a level that not only can it provide for its domestic requirements, but it also exports to other countries. It is world-devouring America which has surrounded the Persian Gulf with military bases and a powerful naval force and has aimed its artillery and missiles at the Hormuz Strait, not the Soviet Union.

"Washington's endeavour to militarize Saudi Arabia is also a cause for concern. Washington is trying to establish close contact between Saudi Arabia's and Oman's military bases."

It should not be forgotten for one moment that the CIA is playing a criminal role in the Near East and the region, and it has intensively increased overt and covert subversive activities in the countries of the region, particularly in our Islamic Republic. However, in Washington they are not able to understand the fact that the nations of the region and our ever-alert nation are defending with tooth and nail the rights of liberated nations, in particular our nation's revolutionary gains, and that progressive mankind is supporting them.